(c) The State Government has informed that steps are being initiated to provide adequate security to the staff to be deployed for the Census work.

Lottery Scheme run by Karnataka Government

4781. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Karnataka Government has been running lottery scheme for the past three decades; and

(b) whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Centre not to ban the running of State lotteries as the amount collected will be utilised for the implementation of welfare schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has been running its lottery scheme since 1969-70.

(b) No, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has not requested the Government of India not to ban lotteries.

Crime Menace in Delhi

4782. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the National Crime Records Bureau, Delhi the Capital is 2.7 times ahead in the crime menace of any other city in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) what special measures are being taken / have been taken to tackle the crime menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The report furnished by the National Crime Record Bureau indicates that the crime rate during 1998 in some other cities was higher than that in Delhi.

(c) The measures taken to tackle the crime situation in the National Capital Territory of Delhi include intensification of beat patrolling; posting of armed pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence network; close watch on and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals and terrorists; verification of antecedents of domestic servants; increased surveillance on

history sheeters; coordination meeting with officers of neighbouring States; meetings with members of Residents Welfare Associations; formation of anti-terrorist cell in each police district; and deployment of police personnel in plain cloths in running buses, market places, business places and other crime-prone places.

EPIC War between Hindus and Opponents

†4783. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh has warned to start a great war (Mahabharat) between the Hindus and the opponents of Hinduism;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in this respect the RSS has particularly alluded to the Muslims and Chirstians; and

(c) if so, Government's attidute towards such misleading and exciting statements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) In accordance with the secular ethos as enshrined in the Constitution of India, all citizens are granted equal protection by the State irrespective of their religeous belief.

The Government is committed to safeguarding the interests of the minority community and also to bring to book the perpetrators of violence against them. The activities of all organisations having a bearing on maintenance of communal harmony in the country are under constant watch, and law enforcement agencies are alert on this.

Foreign Fund for Indo-German social service Society

4784. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS: be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that New Delhi based Indo-German Social Service Society receiving huge amount of foreign funds for mobilising rural youth through its "SMILE' programme for anti-Government / national poltical activities on national projects like Tehri Hydro-electric dam and Narmada Sagar dam; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.